

Tbilisi, December 04, 2020

To: Tamila Barkalaia

Deputy Minister of IDPs, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

## REQUEST FOR MEETING

Dear Ms. Deputy Minister,

On behalf of the project *"Expanding and Improving the Services of Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Georgia"* implemented by Caritas Czech Republic, I would like to ask you for a meeting to discuss sustainability issues of the project's outcomes.

The project will be completed in 2021 and CzechAid, which is the donor agency, wishes to sustain its results after its completion.

The above-mentioned project has played a crucial role in the development of autism services and its quality assurance in Georgia (especially in the regions). Thanks to the project, specialists working with children with ASD and family physicians have an evidence-based national protocol. An autism service standard has also been developed to guide both autism service providers and local governments in developing municipal autism programs.

On the request of your respective Ministry, the project has also focused on the diversification of therapeutic approaches used for working with children with ASD. With the involvement of Canadian and American experts, Georgian specialists have been trained in Early Start Denver Model as well as in SCERTS (Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support) model. As a logical continuation of all this effort, Ministry of Health should update a state program, under which would provide services to children with autism spectrum under the age of 7 years.

For Caritas Czech Republic and Czech Development Agency, the final aim is the sustainability of the services and efficiency of already created systems, which should assure that the resources invested in capacity building and in other forms of assistance will not be lost and will be used by the Government of Georgia in a most efficient way.

Caritas Czech Republic is ready to discuss with the Ministry of Health the best means of achievement of this sustainability and for that I would like to kindly ask you to provide us the date of the meeting.

Dear Ms. Barkalaia, let me use this opportunity to renew the Ministry of Health of the assurance of my highest consideration.

With kind regards

Jan Blinka



Jan Blinka

Head of Mission

Caritas Czech Republic